

OBITUARIES

Dennis Buck, 41, taught photography CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Dennis A. Buck was an associate professor of photography at the Cleveland Institute of Art and a trustee of the New Organization for Visual Arts.

Mr. Buck, 41, died yesterday at his home in Cleveland Heights. He had cancer.

He was born in East Detroit, Mich. He came to Cleveland in 1968 to study at the Cleveland Institute of Art, where he was awarded a bachelor of fine arts degree. He pursued graduate studies in aesthetics at Cleveland State University.

Mr. Buck was laboratory manager in the photography department of the art institute in the 1970s. He was with the young-artist program at the school for many years and served on the Saturday and summer-session faculties.

Professionally, Mr. Buck specialized in photography of artwork for art books, catalogs, posters, magazines, archives and other uses.

For several years, he owned a business that produced slides and other visual aids for doctors and medical researchers.

Mr. Buck's work was included in the May Show of the Cleveland Museum of Art. He also exhibited extensively in area galleries and in other parts of the country, including Washington, D.C., and the University of Iowa.

OCT 19 1990

October 18, 1990

TO: Tom Hinson
FROM: Dennis Buck

Dear Tom,

Since I had the old word processor cranked up tonight for some student letters of recommendation, I thought I'd dash off this note to you in case we don't connect by phone on Friday. (I'll be photographing where a phone might be hard to come by for most of the day.)

I regret that I won't be able to show you my new work - the kallitypes I mentioned at our last conversation. I've been contending with a number of problems - Kodak recently discontinued my internegative film, my wife's photography business has usurped my darkroom facilities, and I'm buried under some heavy-duty home reconstruction projects which simply have to get finished before the really cold weather sets in. (Lately when I'm not teaching, I'm an electrician, plumber, or carpenter!) Of course, I knew about all of these things when you called me about looking at images, I just hoped a miracle might happen - it hasn't yet.

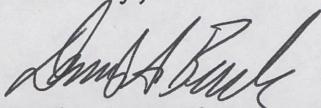
I have been slowly solving these problems. After some very long phone calls to Kodak in Rochester, I've got some special-order film on its way which should (they think) work for my purposes. My wife's take-over of my lab is, in a couple of ways, a good thing. Her success as a technical photographer for doctors and research scientists gets me off the hook as far as a lot of the free-lance photography I had to do in the past, and I'd been gathering equipment for a larger darkroom anyway - so I now have a new incentive for setting it up. (I've got a very nice lab at The Institute, but I find it impossible to work uninterrupted with students around.)

If my current ideas were closer to some of the past work - the large mixed media color pieces and B&W double image prints you've probably seen - I'd have no compunction about showing them now. However, I've felt the need to make big changes, and I don't even want to see the old stuff now, let alone show it! I will have at least a couple of these new kallitypes in The Institute faculty exhibit at the end of November, and I hope you'll see them there. I'd also like to show you the whole series upon completion - your experience with the early photographic images would be invaluable feed-back for me.

I know you haven't asked me for recommendations for other photographers, but I do have one. Nancy McEntee is the person who took my place at The Institute during my leave. An MFA graduate of Bard College in New York, she deals mostly with portrait/narratives, images of power and emotional complexity. Spaces had a show last fall of work by photo faculty from northeast Ohio - I felt McEntee's work was the strongest by far. This year she is the Photo Complex Manager at The Institute, also teaching at CWRU. If you'd like to call her, the number for her office at CIA is 421-7329

So that's the situation in my little corner of reality. I very much appreciate your interest, I only wish my schedule of events more closely matched yours! And thank you again Tom, for giving me the chance to share my enthusiasms last August in your gallery.

Sincerely,



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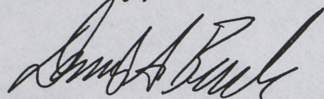
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